



32692
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



#15
TLC/leb
Patent

Case No.: 56731US002

RECEIVED
APR 11 2003
GROUP 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: KUTA, LEROY A.

Application No.: 09/883144 Group Art Unit: 1734

Filed: June 15, 2001 Examiner: M. Osele

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY APPLYING A FLYING SPLICING TAPE TO A ROLL OF SHEET MATERIAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

April 3, 2003
Date

Beth M. Lindblom
Signed by: Beth M. Lindblom

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, but prior to the mailing of a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311. Please charge the fee for consideration of an Information Disclosure Statement set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723, and if necessary, please charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Date

April 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Melissa E. Buss, Reg. No.: 47,485
Telephone No.: (651) 733-0649

09883144

13-3723

CH

180.00

04/17/2003 TLOV/LAC 00000000000000000000
01 FC:1806

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833